



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers (R-25)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

House Republican Leadership Criticizes Lawsuit Filed by Planned Parenthood

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The House Republican leadership team today criticized a lawsuit filed by Planned Parenthood that seeks to invalidate a series of pro-life laws that the plaintiffs say have forced them to close facilities in portions of the state.

Specifically, Planned Parenthood is challenging commonsense laws that prohibit nurses or clinicians from performing abortions, require a 24-hour waiting period prior to an abortion, and require doctors and nurses to examine a patient in person for abortion-related services.

“These laws were designed to protect the mothers of the unborn, but Planned Parenthood seems more concerned about how its organization, and its bottom line, has been affected,” said Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25). **“This lawsuit is nothing but an attempt to get the courts to implement a pro-abortion agenda.”**

“Our legislative efforts have not only dramatically reduced the number of abortions in Arizona, but they have also protected the health and safety of the mothers,” said House Majority Leader Warren Petersen (R-12). **“This lawsuit seems to be more about Planned Parenthood’s failing business model rather than the interests of Arizonans, but I guess that’s to be expected when an industry’s bottom line is built on ending a life rather than protecting the mother and her child.”**

“You can’t undo an abortion,” said House Majority Whip Becky Nutt (R-14). **“A 24-hour waiting period is critical to providing mothers with a chance to review all their options and understand all the ramifications of their decision. I hope Arizonans take note that in this lawsuit, Planned Parenthood is decrying the fact that more Arizona women are choosing life instead of abortion.”**

“While telemedicine is a great tool for many procedures, abortion-related services is not one of them,” said House Speaker Pro Tempore T.J. Shope (R-8). **“This lawsuit is misguided, and I expect the courts to affirm the right of state lawmakers to make laws to protect mothers of the unborn.”**

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